

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 00131 151224Z
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AGRE-00 COME-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 STR-04 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 OMB-01
/065 W

-----151227Z 055620 /14

R 142040Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 225
INFO/RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 511

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0131

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TD

SUBJECT: RESTRICTION OF BRANDY IMPORTS

REF: STATE 307278

1) EMBASSY CONTACTED GOTT CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICIAL ABOUT
REF. OFFICIAL STATED BRANDY ONLY ALCOHOL BEVERAGE SUBJECT
REQUIREMENT 75 DEGREES BRITISH PROOF AS CALCULATED BY SIKES
METHOD FOR IMPORTATION. (BRANDY DOCUMENTED OVER 10 YEARS
EXCEPTION.) HOWEVER ALL ALCOHOL BEVERAGES SOLD TO PUBLIC
REQUIRED (BY GOTT EXCISE REGULATION) TO BE 75 DEGREES B.P.
(AGAIN 10 YEAR BRANDY EXEMPT). PROBLEM IS ESSENTIALLY
STANDARDS OF ALCOHOLIC CONTENT FOR SALE; METHOD OF CALCULATION
IS IRRELEVANT, AS GOTT WOULD MAKE CONVERSION IN ANY CASE.
(EFFECT THIS REQUIREMENT FOR SALE OF 80 PROOF AMERICAN WHISKIES
NOT BROUGHT UP, AS OFFICIALS UNDER ASSUMPTION AMERICAN
WHISKIES STILL 86 PROOF.)

2) OFFICIAL FURTHER STATED TO ALLOW IMPORTATION AND PUBLIC
SALE U.S. BRANDY 80 DEGREES PROOF WOULD REQUIRE
CHANGES BOTH GOTT CUSTOMS AND EXCISES LAWS. LEGISLATIVE
PROCEDURES ARE CUMBERSOME, AND THIS IS LARGE UNDERTAKING
FOR SUCH SMALL POTENTIAL MARKET. WHILE GOTT PROBABLY WILL
REVISE LAWS AT SOME FUTURE DATE TO ACCOMMODATE INTERNATIONAL
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STANDARDS, HOWEVER, THIS WOULD BE LONG TERM PROJECT.

3) EMBASSY WILL EXPLORE MEANS ASSIST AND NUDGE GOTT TO
REVISE LAWS INCLUDING CONTACTING RUM EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION
TO DETERMINE IF INTERESTED IN SEEING PRESENT LAW (LOCAL
SALES AT 75 DEGREES) REVISED. FEEL IT USEFUL SUPPLY GOTT
WITH U.S. AND E.C. REGULATION/STANDARDS, ANY INTERNATIONAL

STANDARDS BEING PROPOSED AS WELL AS OTHER DOCUMENTATION
DEPARTMENT FEELS WOULD BE USEFUL. APPRECIATE IF DEPARTMENT
WOULD SUPPLY SUCH DOCUMENTS.

4) GOTT REQUIRING TAUREL & CO., TO RE-EXPORT 25 CASES
OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS BRANDY.

5) RE PARA 2 OF LONDON'S 548, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICIAL
DOES NOT UNDERSTAND HOW U.S. 80 PROFF CAN CORRESPOND TO
SLIGHTLY MORE THAN 75 PROOF UK AS HE SAYS THERE ARE ONLY
TWO METHODS OF CALCULATION, BY WEIGHT OR BY VOLUME AND
75 PROOF FORMER CORRESPONDS TO 86 PROOF LATTER.
FAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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